



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



17 February 2022

Dear colleagues,

GMS Contract Agreement 2021/22

Following on from our joint letter dated 1 December 2021 outlining the negotiated contract agreement for this year; we are pleased to now be able to write to provide you with the detailed guidance.

The GMS Contract Implementation Group was established to take forward the agreed negotiation outcomes and facilitate their implementation into the GMS contract. The group included representatives from the Welsh Government, GPC Wales, NHS Wales, NHS Wales Shared Service Partnership, DHCW and Practice Managers.

We have worked together at pace to complete the guidance documents and to ensure the agreed additional capacity funding for 2021/22 was made available in advance, to support practices and allow access to this funding stream to increase capacity over the winter period.

Work is ongoing in Welsh Government to develop a Webpage specifically for resources relating to the GMS Contract. In the meantime, the table below contains links to all the guidance documents now being made available. These documents will also be hosted on the [BMA website](#) and also the Primary Care Information Portal (PCIP) in the resources tab of the 'GMS Contract 2021/22' tile. Further detail in relation to search criteria and templates in support of the QAIF QI mandatory data projects will be made available by the end of February 2022.

Should you have any further queries on the guidance or changes then please contact your Health Board Primary Care Team.

Yours sincerely,



Alex Slade

Deputy Director

Welsh Government



Lynne Joannou

Chair Implementation Group

NHS Wales



Phil White

Chair

GPC Wales

GMS Contract Guidance 2021/22

All guidance documents can be found at <https://gov.wales/general-medical-services-gms-contract-guidance-2021-2022>

Pay & Expenses	
3% uplift to the GP Pay element of the contract. The pay uplift for GP's and practice staff is to be implemented without any substitution for any other payments which that individual would otherwise have received (e.g., NHS Bonus payment as set out in the relevant Directions). They payment should have featured in the January 2022 practice pay run.	GMS contract: practice declaration staff pay rise GOV.WALES
Improving access to and from Primary Care	
Access Commitment to demonstrate to the public what they can expect in terms of access from GP practices. This will be delivered through a new phase of Access Standards within QAIF (Phase 2), from 1 April 2022.	Access Guidance to be issued at end of March 2022.
Current Access Standards (Phase 1) remaining in place until end of March 2022 and retained as pre-qualifiers from 1 April, with the following changes agreed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standard 2 – 2 minute telephone response, Practices will not be assessed on their achievement of Standard 2 with achievement assumed and counting towards Group 1 payments (min. of 3 in order for payment to be made) this year. Standard 8 – Demand and Capacity and Patient Satisfaction, Practices will not be assessed on their achievement of Standard 8, with achievement assumed and counting towards Group 2 payments. 	Access to in-hours GMS services standards: amended supplementary guidance 2021 to 2022 GOV.WALES
Additional Capacity - £2m new funding available during 2021-22 financial year, to support additional winter capacity. This is to fund additional staff resources above what is already in place within GMS. From 1 April 2022, capacity funding of £4m will be made available, recurrently for three years, accessible to practices via Health Boards. This includes the continuation of the £2m investment made during 2021-22 for additional winter capacity, coupled with a £2m transfer from the Access QAIF domain.	GMS contract: additional capacity guidance 2021 to 2022 GOV.WALES GMS contract: additional capacity guidance 2022 to 2023 GOV.WALES
Quality and Prevention	
Quality Assurance Active Clinical Indicators (Flu (20pts) and Dementia (28pts)) to remain active. (48 points total). Inactive clinical indicators within QAIF (Diabetes, COPD, Mental Health, and Palliative Care) at 77 points be reactivated.	Quality Assurance and Improvement Framework (QAIF) : GMS contract 2021 to 2022 GOV.WALES

<p>Demand and Capacity – 40 points Completion of CGSAT and IG Toolkit – 40 points Quality Improvement Agreement has been reached to enable the expansion of the QI basket, including a new 35 point Green Inhaler Project. Data quality and sharing 2 new mandatory projects within the QAIF framework for all practices this year with 105 points: 70 Points – Mandatory Project 1 Activity/Appointment data; 35 Points – Mandatory Project 2 Patient Safety Clinical Data.</p>	
<p>Cluster working and working at scale</p>	
<p>All practices will be mandated, via the core contract, to: Be members of a GP Collaborative. Revised cluster domain at 100 points (with 100 points moved to the QI domain).</p>	<p>GMS contract: GP collaborative guidance 2021 to 2022 GOV.WALES</p>
<p>Workforce Measures</p>	
<p>Protected Learning Time and Care Navigation Training Six funded protected learning time sessions per annum will be made available and targeted at all staff within the practice. In implementing the protected learning time offer, all practices will be required to report each month on their weekly capacity and available appointments for monitoring purposes. Subject to agreement of the mechanism at the implementation group, this will enable HBs to monitor the impact on capacity of Protected Learning Time.</p>	<p>GMS contract: protected learning time template GOV.WALES</p>
<p>Shared Parental Leave and Independent Prescriber Reimbursement Agreement to enable the reimbursement of costs, up to an agreed limit, where Independent Prescribers are providing cover for GP's on parental leave. Enhanced Shared Parental leave arrangements will be enabled for all salaried GP's in Wales. Arrangements for GP Partners will continue to be a matter for the Partnership Agreement.</p>	<p>Further comms from BMA Cymru Wales on Enhanced Shared Parental Leave arrangements will follow in due course</p>
<p>Partner Incentives A new funded Partnership Premium Scheme for non-GP partners will be introduced, the scheme will be rolled out in phases, with phase 1 being open to those who had signed a Partnership Agreement prior to 31 March 2021.</p>	<p>GMS contract: partnership premium scheme GOV.WALES</p>

